WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Increasing the production capacity of coal washeries

†2388. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question No. 1028 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30th July, 2002 and state:

(a) whether the production capacity of coal washeries is proposed to be increased further in the country; and

(b) if so, the future plan of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for increasing the production capacity of the existing coal washeries of Coal India Limited. However, Coal India Limited is in process of finalising agreement for setting up of 3 non-coking coal washeries under Built-Own-Operate (BOO) basis for supply of washed coal to thermal power stations. CIL is also encouraging setting up of new washeries by the linked consumers or through private entrepreneurs after they enter into an agreement with the linked consumers for supply of washed coal.

Implementation of Supreme Court's directions by CIL

2389. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 4184 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30th April, 2003 and state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court on the application filed before it for modification of its orders dated 29th April, 2002, passed an order on 13th January, 2003; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the CIL complied with the directions of the Supreme Court order dated 29th April, 2002; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir. The application for modification of the order dated 29.4.2002 in Civil Appeal No. 816 and 817 of 2001 filed by CIL came up for hearing before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 13th January, 2003 alongwith other applications filed by CIL and the respondent M/s. Domco Smokeless Fuel Pvt. Ltd. The text of the order as passed by the Hon'ble Court are *inter-alia* as follows:-

"Let these applications be considered at the time of hearing on the main matter".

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court is seized *inter-alia* with the said application for modification of the order dated 29.4.2002 and upon due consideration directed the said application be placed and heard along with the main matter.

Coal mining outside State boundaries

2390. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre has decided to allow State public sector undertakings to take up coal mining outside their State boundaries and sell it in the open market anywhere; and

(b) if so, whether the States having no substantial coal reserves can actually set up their own coal producing entities and start operation in coal rich States such as Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the revised Coal Mining Policy issued on 12th December, 2001 any State Government company or undertaking authorised by its Memorandum & Articles of Association to do coal mining can undertake coal mining as per the provisions of law governing coal mining in the country.